



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE
500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-5065
615-741-6007

PHIL BREDESEN
GOVERNOR

PAULA A. FLOWERS
COMMISSIONER

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Contact: Paula Wade 615-741-6007

**STATE OFFICIALS WIN COURT BATTLE
FOR \$5.7 MILLION DUE TO TENNCARE PROVIDERS**

NASHVILLE _ A Davidson County court has ordered the return of \$5.7 million sought by the Tennessee Dept. of Commerce and Insurance for distribution to TennCare providers owed money by the defunct TennCare MCO Tennessee Coordinated Care Network (TCCN).

Davidson County Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle ruled that company officials wrongly diverted the funds from TCCN in the final days of its operations, and that the money should be included among the TCCN assets to be divided among the hundreds of doctors, hospitals and other medical service providers owed money by the failed MCO.

The \$5.7 million, plus interest, will be part of a final distribution to TCCN's TennCare providers through the state's liquidation of TCCN. TCCN is the company that operated the Access MedPlus Health Plan, which was taken into liquidation in November, 2001.

The \$5.7 million has been in dispute since October 16, 2001, when Anthony J. Cebrun, the president of TCCN's management company, transferred the money from the TCCN account to the management company's account. At the time, TCCN was under the supervision of the Dept. of Commerce and Insurance, and the transfer was not authorized as required under the supervision order. Three days later, TCCN shut down and its 279,000 TennCare enrollees had to be transferred to TennCare Select.

Last week, Courtney Pearre, Special Deputy Liquidator for TCCN, distributed \$29.2 million in TCCN assets to hundreds of Tennessee doctors, hospitals, and medical service and supply firms. The final distribution of TCCN assets will be made on the same pro rata basis as last week's distribution.

``Together with the \$29.2 million already distributed, this money will allow us to pay back providers more than 50 cents on the dollar, for what they were owed,'' Pearre said. ``It's not the full amount, but I'm satisfied that we've done everything feasible to get back as much as we can for those health providers.''